

Message Text

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44

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 OMB-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /107 W

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R 201143Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7837

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: NA

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TAGS: ELAB, IN

SUBJ: CONTROL OF ICFTU'S ASIAN TRADE UNION COLLEGE
SHIFTED TO SINGAPORE

REF : MANILA A-122

1. THE EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE OF THE ASIAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION (ARO) OF THE ICFTU MET IN NEW DELHI AUGUST 10-12 AND FOCUSED MAINLY ON THE ICFTU'S ASIAN TRADE UNION COLLEGE. THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO FORM A SPECIAL "BUREAU" RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE "EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS" OF THE COLLEGE. MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU ARE THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICFTU, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARO, THE ASIAN REGIONAL SECRETARY, THE DIRECTOR OF THE COLLEGE AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ITS'S OPERATING IN THE REGION. THE EFFECT OF THIS DECISION IS TO DIVEST VIJENDRA KABRA, THE COLLEGE DIRECTOR, OF CONTROL OF THE COLLEGE AND TO PLACE IT IN THE NEW BUREAU WHICH IS TO BE LOCATED IN SINGAPORE. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT TOM ELIOT, A PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS, WILL HAVE THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR RUNNING THE BUREAU ON BEHALF OF THE ARO PRESIDENT, DEVAN NAIR. THE BUREAU IS TO BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE ARO EXECUTIVE BOARD THROUGH THE EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE. (COMMENT: THE ARO REGIONAL SECRETARY, V.S. MATHUR, IS CLEARLY THE VICTOR IN HIS STRUGGLE WITH KABRA, WHO EXPECTS TO LEAVE THE COLLEGE AND DEVOTE FULL TIME TO A DISA (SWEDISH)-ILO SPONSORED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.)

2. IN ADDITION TO ITS CONTROL OF THE COLLEGE, THE BUREAU IS GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR FORMULATING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROJECTS AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ARO AND ICFTU. IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THIS FUNCTION, THE BUREAU IS CHARGED WITH MAINTAINING "REGULAR CONTACTS WITH THE SPECIALISED AGENCIES OF THE UN AND FRIENDLY INSTITUTIONS OPERATING IN THE REGION FOR SECURING NECESSARY ASSISTANCE AND FUNDING OF THE PROJECTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ICFTU AND THE ITS'S CONCERNED." "FRIENDLY INSTITUTIONS" WAS UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN AAFLI, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOMEI, AND THE FRG FOUNDATIONS. THE INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING INSISTED THAT THE SOURCE OF ANY FUNDS FOR PROJECTS HAD TO BE DISCLOSED, SO THAT THE NATIONAL TRADE UNION CENTER COULD DECIDE WHETHER IT WAS ACCEPTABLE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME INDIAN TRADE UNION LEADERS ARE SUSPICIOUS THAT AAFLI MONEY WILL BE PASSED OFF AS COMING FROM DOMEI.

3. HISTADRUT OFFERED TO FUND THE EXPENSES OF AN ISRAELI TO HEAD THE RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE NEW BUREAU IN SINGAPORE, WHICH THE EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE ACCEPTED. (COMMENT: THE ISRAELI GENEROSITY IS REMARKABLE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HTE HISTADRUT DELEGATE TO THE DELHI MEETING WAS DETAINED NINETEEN HOURS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS ARRIVAL FOR FAILING TO HAVE THE REQUISITE VISA*).
SAXBE

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Draft Date: 20 AUG 1976
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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